

form of the thorax and of the abdomen in some manner and to some degree.

But these two forms, the winged and the wingless, are very well to be characterized by the structures peculiar to each, which serve to emphasize and support the division based on the primary stable characters, characters which must appear in all descriptions of any form of a *Microvelia*.

In brief, no specific description of a *Microvelia* is convincing unless based on non-plastic, invariable characters common to all forms. Without these fixed characters, such a description is no more than a delusion and a snare. Color may help, but unless correlated to structure and ruled by it, it is neither stable nor final. The firm foundation of all specific characterizations is fixed and unvarying structures, and particularly so in the genus *Microvelia*.

A NEW GENUS OF PHORIDAE (DIPTERA).

BY J. R. MALLOCH, Washington, D. C.

Rhyncophoromyia n. g.

Similar to *Aphiochaeta*, differing in having the frons projecting beyond anterior level of eyes and partly covering the antennae, its anterior outline rounded, the impressed central line distinct, and the postantennal bristles widely separated and proclinate. The face is produced in the form of a blunt process between antennae, the process equalling in size the third antennal segment, and the proboscis is heavily chitinized and longer than the head, as in some species of *Dohrniphora*. Otherwise as *Aphiochaeta*.

Genotype, the following species.

Rhyncophoromyia trivittata sp. n.

Female.—Yellowish testaceous, shining. Thoracic dorsum with three broad brown vittae, the central one extending over scutellum and metanotum, the others on lateral margins; a brown spot below and behind wing base. Dorsum of abdomen mostly shining dark brown. *Legs* brownish yellow. *Wings* yellowish, with a spot over fork of third vein and in base of cell beyond it, and the apex of wing brown. *Halteres* fuscous. *Frons* as long as wide, with microscopic setulae, preocellar series of four bristles nearly straight, inner bristle of anterior

series in line between outer one and postantennal; antennae small, arista pubescent, dorsal; palpi elongate, with a few bristles. *Thorax* with one pair of prescutellar dorsocentrals; *scutellum* with two long bristles, *mesopleura* with some setulae, and one long bristle on its upper posterior angle. *Abdomen* tapered, not well preserved in type but evidently with a chitinized ovipositor. *Hind tibia* with about 7 posterodorsal setulae. Costa about four sevenths of the wing length, first section fully as long as next two combined, third one fourth as long as second; costal fringe close, the setulae a little longer than diameter of costal vein. Length, 1.5 mm.

Type, Higuito, San Mateo, Costa Rica (P. Schild), in U. S. National Museum.

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